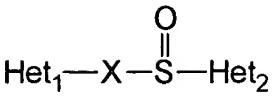
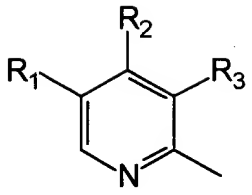


I

wherein

Het_1 is



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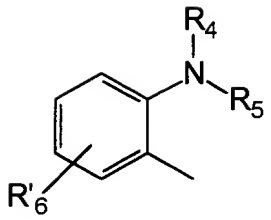

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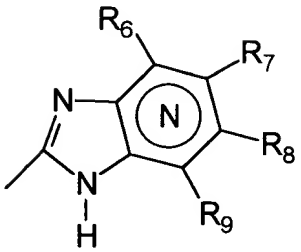

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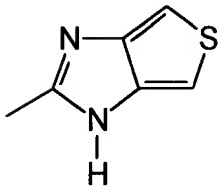

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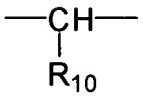

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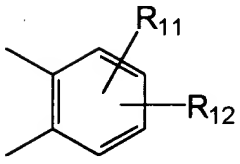


wherein

N in the benzimidazole moiety means that one of the ring carbon atoms substituted by R_6-R_9 optionally may be exchanged for a nitrogen atom without any substituents;

R_1, R_2 and R_3 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, fluorine-substituted alkoxy [optionally substituted by fluorine], alkylthio, alkoxyalkoxy, dialkylamino, piperidino, morpholino, halogen, phenyl and phenylalkoxy;

R_4 and R_5 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl and aralkyl;

$R_{6'}$ is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, alkyl and alkoxy;

R_6-R_9 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, halogen, halo-alkoxy, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, oxazolyl, trifluoroalkyl, or adjacent groups R_6-R_9 form ring structures which may be further substituted;

R_{10} is hydrogen or forms an alkylene chain together with R_3; and

R_{11} and R_{12} are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen or alkyl.

2. (Amended) The [An] admimistration regimen according to claim 1, wherein [~~characterized in that~~] the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor is a compound selected from the group consisting of omeprazole, an alkaline salt of omeprazole, the (-)-enantiomer of omeprazole and an alkaline salt of the (-)-enantiomer of omeprazole.

3. (Amended) The [~~An~~] administration regimen [~~giving an extended blood plasma profile of a H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor~~] according to claim 1 or 2, wherein [~~any of claims 1 and 2 characterized~~

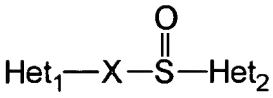
in that] the extended plasma profile is obtained by two or more consecutive oral administrations of a unit dose of the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor with 0.5 - 4 hours intervals.

4. (Amended) The [An] administration regimen [giving an extended blood plasma profile of a H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor] according to claim 1, wherein [characterized in that] the extended plasma profile is obtained by oral administration of the [a unit dose of a] pharmaceutical formulation [preparation] which releases the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor [drug] for absorption in two or more discrete pulses separated in time by 0.5 - 4 hours.

5. (Amended) The [An] administration regimen according to claim 1, wherein [characterized in that] the extended plasma profile is obtained by oral administration of the [a unit dose of a] pharmaceutical formulation [preparation] which releases the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor for absorption with an almost constant rate during an extended time period.

6. (Amended) The [An] administration regimen according to any of claims 1 - 5, wherein [characterized in that] the extended plasma profile is maintained for [received during] 2 - 12 hours.

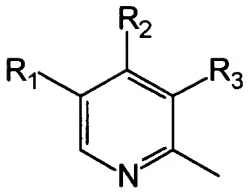
7. (Amended) An oral pharmaceutical formulation comprising an H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the formulation induces [composition giving] an extended blood plasma profile of the [a] H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor and [, characterized in that] the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor is a compound of [with] the formula I



I

wherein

Het_1 is



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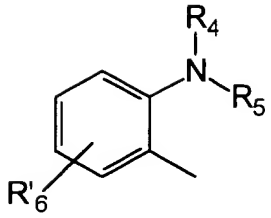

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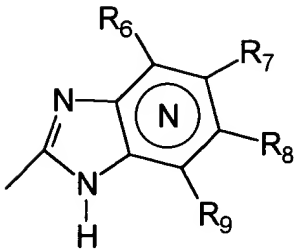

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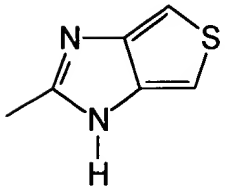

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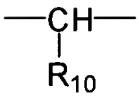

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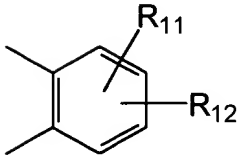


wherein

N in the benzimidazole moiety means that one of the ring carbon atoms substituted by R_6-R_9 optionally may be exchanged for a nitrogen atom without any substituents;

R_1, R_2 and R_3 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, fluorine-substituted alkoxy [~~optionally substituted by fluorine~~], alkylthio, alkoxyalkoxy, dialkylamino, piperidino, morpholino, halogen, phenyl and phenylalkoxy;

R_4 and R_5 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl and aralkyl;

R_6' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, alkyl and alkoxy;

R_6-R_9 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, halogen, halo-alkoxy, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, oxazolyl, trifluoroalkyl, or adjacent groups R_6-R_9 form ring structures which may be further substituted;

R_{10} is hydrogen or forms an alkylene chain together with R_3; and

R_{11} and R_{12} are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen or alkyl.

8. (Amended) The [~~An~~] oral pharmaceutical formulation [~~preparation~~] according to claim 7, wherein [~~characterized in that~~] the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor is a compound selected from the group consisting of omeprazole, an alkaline salt of omeprazole, the (-)-enantiomer of omeprazole and an alkaline salt of the (-)-enantiomer of omeprazole.

9. (Amended) The [An] oral pharmaceutical formulation [preparation giving an extended blood plasma profile of a H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor] according to claim 7, wherein [characterized in that] the pharmaceutical formulation [preparation] releases the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor [drug] for absorption in two or more discrete pulses separated in time by 0.5 - 4 hours.

10. (Amended) The [An] oral pharmaceutical formulation [preparation] according to claim 7, wherein [characterized in that] the pharmaceutical formulation [preparation] releases the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor for absorption with an almost constant rate during an extended time period.

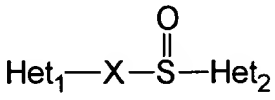
11. (Amended) The [An] oral pharmaceutical formulation [preparation giving an extended blood plasma profile of a H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor] according to any of claims 7 - 10, wherein [characterized in that] the extended plasma profile is maintained for [received during] 2 -12 hours.

15. (Amended) A method for improving inhibition of gastric acid secretion comprising [which comprises] administering to a patient in need thereof[, an] the oral pharmaceutical formulation [composition] as claimed in any of claims 7 - 10.

16. (Amended) A method for improving the [therapeutic effect in the] treatment of gastrointestinal disorders associated with excess acid secretion comprising [which comprises] administering to a patient in need thereof[, an] the oral pharmaceutical formulation [composition] as claimed in any claims 7 - 10.

Add new claims 18 and 19:

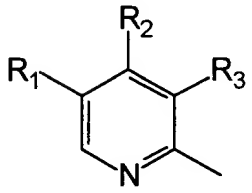
18. An administration regimen for improved inhibiton of gastric acid secretion characterized by an extended blood plasma profile of an H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor, comprising the oral administration of a pharmaceutical formulation comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor having the formula I



I

wherein

Het_1 is



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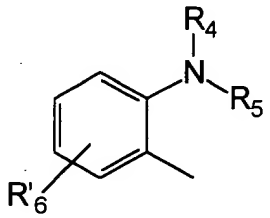

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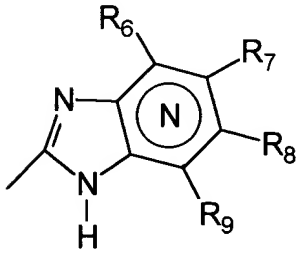

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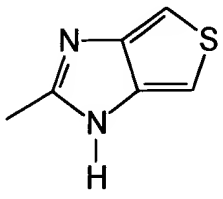

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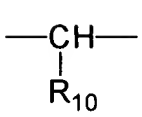

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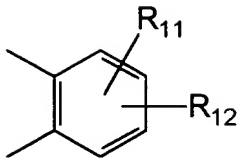


wherein

N in the benzimidazole moiety means that one of the ring carbon atoms substituted by R_6-R_9 optionally may be exchanged for a nitrogen atom without any substituents;

R_1, R_2 and R_3 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, fluorine-substituted alkoxy, alkylthio, alkoxyalkoxy, dialkylamino, piperidino, morpholino, halogen, phenyl and phenylalkoxy;

R_4 and R_5 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl and aralkyl;

R_6' is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, alkyl and alkoxy;

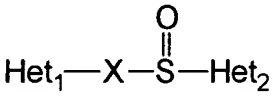
R_6-R_9 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, halogen, halo-alkoxy, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, oxazolyl, trifluoroalkyl, or adjacent groups R_6-R_9 form ring structures which may be further substituted;

R_{10} is hydrogen or forms an alkylene chain together with R_3; and

R_{11} and R_{12} are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen or alkyl,

with the proviso that the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor is not pantoprazole.

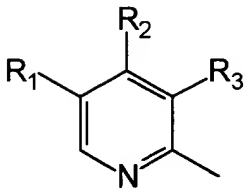
19. An oral pharmaceutical formulation comprising an H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the formulation induces an extended blood plasma profile of the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor and the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor is a compound of the formula I



I

wherein

Het_1 is



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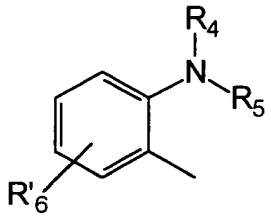

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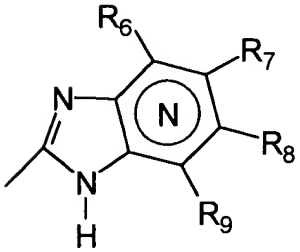

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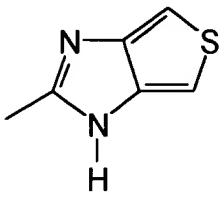

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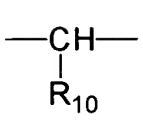

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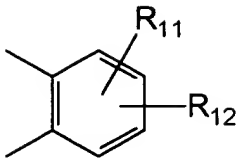

wherein

N in the benzimidazole moiety means that one of the ring carbon atoms substituted by R_6-R_9 optionally may be exchanged for a nitrogen atom without any substituents;

R_1, R_2 and R_3 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, fluorine-substituted alkoxy, alkylthio, alkoxyalkoxy, dialkylamino, piperidino, morpholino, halogen, phenyl and phenylalkoxy;

R_4 and R_5 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl and aralkyl;

R_6' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, alkyl and alkoxy;

R_6-R_9 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, halogen, halo-alkoxy, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, oxazolyl, trifluoroalkyl, or adjacent groups R_6-R_9 form ring structures which may be further substituted;

R_{10} is hydrogen or forms an alkylene chain together with R_3; and

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with the proviso that the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor is not pantoprazole.